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BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Edward A. Garvey Joel Jacobs Marshall Johnson LeRoy Koppendray Gregory Scott

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area Service from the Lonsdale Exchange to the

Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Calling

SEP

ISSUE DATE: September 8, 1999

DOCKET NO. P-404,407,520,405,413,5 🐍 426, 427, 421, 430/CP-99-336

ORDER REQUIRING COST STUDIES A ID PROPOSED RATES

#### PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On March 16, 1999, subscribers in the Lonsdale exchange filed a petition for extended area service (EAS) to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA). Lonsdale Telephone Company serves the Lonsdale exchange.

On May 3, 1999. Lonsdale Telephone Company filed a traffic study.

On May 4, 1999, the Department of Public Service (the Department) filed comments. The Department stated that the petition was valid and recommended that the Commission direct the filing of cost studies and proposed rates.

On August 19, 1999, the metter came before the Commission for consideration.

#### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

#### I. THE EAS CRITERIA

In Orders dated October 24, 1995, and February 23, 1996, the Commission established three criteria for a successful EAS petition:

The petitioning exchange is contiguous to an exchange or local calling area to which extended area service is requested in the petition.

In the Maner of an Investigation into the Appropriate Local Calling Scope, ir Accordance 11th Mi Star, 237, 161 (1994), Docket No. P-999/CI-94-296 ORDER TING T PROCESS OF EAS PETITIONS (1) 1 24 119 and ORDER AFTER RECONSIDERATION (February 23, 1996).

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- At least 50 percent of the customers in the petitioning exchange make three or more caller per month to the exchange or local calling area to which extended area service is requested. as determined by a traffic study.
- Polling by the Commission shows that a majority of the customers responding to a poll the petitioning exchange favor the installation of extended area service, unless all parts and the Commission agree that no polling is necessary.

# II. ADJACENCY AND TRAFFIC VOLUME

The Lonsdale exchange is adjacent to the exchanges of New Market, New Prague, Webster, at 1 Montgomery, all of which are part of the MCA. The petition therefore fulfills the EAS adjacency requirement.

During the time covered in the traffic study, 63.3 percent of Lonsdale subscribers made three i " more calls per month to the MCA. The study therefore fulfills the traffic volume criterion for an EAS petition.

# III. COST STUDIES AND PROPOSED RATES

The petition will now proceed to the polling phase to determine subscriber preference.

To make an informed choice in the polling process, subscribers must know the rates they will pay if EAS is implemented in their exchange. The Commission will therefore require the affected telephone companies to tile cost studies and proposed rates for the proposed Lonsdale/MCA EAS route.

In developing their cost studies, the telephone companies should comply with Commission requirements in recent Orders addressing similar EAS situations:

- The date of companies' access line counts should concur with the time period over who the usage studies were made.
- All traffic and cost studies must be timely and based on the most current data available: a
  the time the cost study is ordered.
- The companies should provide supporting information as requested by the Commissio staff and the Department.
- Cost study methodologies should be consistent with previous Commission decisions regarding EAS to the metropolitan area, including the use of a stimulation factor of 4.
- Rates must show the Louisdate exchange bearing at least 75% of the EAS revenue requirement.

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### ORDER

- The telephone companies affected by this petition should file cost studies and propose it rates, consistent with the requirements of this Order, within 90 days of the date of the Order.
- 2. Within 60 days of the filing of the coststudies and proposed rates, the Department should file a report and recommendations.
- 3. Parties who wish to respond to the Department's report must do so within 20 days of stilling.
- The Commission grants its Executive Secretary the authority to vary the above deadlings
  if the Executive Secretary deems a variance necessary.
- This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar Executive Secretary

(SEAL)

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Feb-05-03 12:37pm From-Quest-Omaha-1314 DOTM-7th Fir. SE

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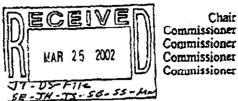
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BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Gregory Scott Edward A. Garvey Marshail Johnson LeRoy Koppendrayer Phyllis A Reha



Commissioner Commissioner

Chair

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area

ISSUE DATE: March 22, 2002

So sice from the Longdale Exchange to the

DOCKET NO. P-404, 407, 520, 405, 413, 542,

M ropolitan Calling Area

426, 427, 430, 421/CP-99-336

**ADDITIVES** 

ORDER SETTING EAS R AND REQUIRING POLL

#### PROCEDURAL HISTORY

O: March 16, 1999, telephone subscribers in the Lonsdale exchange filed a petition for extended as a service (ÉAS) to the Minneapolis/S1. Paul metropolitan calling area. On September 8, 1999.

th Commission issued an Order finding that this proposed EAS route met threshold requirements

of diacency and traffic volume.

T . Commission therefore directed the incumbent local exchange carriers serving the exchanges

u letermine the cost of installing and operating the proposed EAS route and to develop proposed

1a 5 to recover those costs. The Commission would then poll Lonsdale subscribers to determine

wher they wanted EAS at those rates

T: .: companies duly filed their cost studies and proposed rates, but the Commission did not

p :ceed directly to polling. Instead, in a series of Orders issued between November 1998 and

C. ober 2001, the Commissionaddressed a series of new issues posed by the need to adapt EAS to

tl competinive telecommunications market mandated by state and federal law. With these issues

Lajely settled, the Commission met on March 5, 2002 to again consider the Lonsdale EAS

p tion.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

### The Legal Standard

I rended area service is a service arrangement permitting neighboring telephone exchanges to t. some a single local calling area with toll-free calling. The criteria for establishing EAS and the I cedures for determining EAS costs were set by Commission Orders (the EAS Orders)
I llowing an industry-wide fact-finding and policymaking proceeding. Briefly, these criteria and

} ocedures are as follows.

In the Matter of an Investigation inte the Appropriate Local Calling Scope, in ordance with Minn. Stat. 237.161 (1994), Docket No. P-999/CI-94-296, ORDER EACTIVATING THE PROCESSING OF EAS PETITIONS (Octo and ORDER

TER RECONSIDERATION (February 23, 1996).

- A petitioning exchange must be adjacent to the exchange or local (1) calling area 10 which it seeks EAS.
- At 1 u s t 50% of subscribers in the petitioning exchange must make (2) at least three calls per month to the exchange or local calling area to which EAS is sought.
- The companies serving the affected exchanges or local calling areas (3) must determine the cost of installing and operating the proposed EAS route, using Commission-approved costing methods, and file proposed rate additives to recover these costs.
- The Commission must poll subscribers in the petitioning exchange on (4) whether they want EAS at the rates adopted by the Commission.
- If a majority of the subscribers responding to the poll vote yes, the EAS (5) route must be installed.
- If be proposed EAS route is to the metropolitan calling area, the company serving the petitioning exchange must offer its customers local measured service or another lower costalternative to flat rate EAS.
- 1 his case the Commission has determined that the petitioning exchange meets the threshold
- a acency and traffic volume requirements for extended area service to the metropolitan calling
- a. a. What remains is to determine the cost of the proposed route, to set rates reflecting those ts, and to poll subscribers in the petitioning exchange.

#### EAS Rate Additives Set

I 'e cost studies filed by the affected companies, as modified in response w comments from the 1. partment of Commerce, pass muster under the standards set in the EAS Orders. They reflect : wal, specific costs and sound accounting methods. They will be accepted.

ie rates that some of the companies calculated based On these cost studies must be adjusted, wever, because they reflect the former practice of pooling the total costs of proposed EAS total allocating thox costs between affected exchanges and companies. While this practice is reasonable and equitable in a monopoly environment, the Commission has found that it is so ni-competitive in its potential effects that it cannot be permitted in the current, competitive vironment. (The exception is School District EAS caps. where the Legislature has required in-exchange cost-allocation to further overriding public policy goals.)

rese adjustments yield the rates set forth below:

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area Service from the Almelund Exchange to e Metropolitan Calling Area. Docket No. P-407, 405, 413, 520, 426, 427, 430, 421/CP-97-137, OKDER AFTER RECONSIDERATION (November 6, 2000), reversed in part on the ommission's own motion as to other issues; In the Monter of a Petition for Extended Area ervice from the Osakis Exchange to the Alexandria Exchange, Docket No. 552, 430/CP-98-148, ORDER ESTABLISHING RATE ADDITIVES AND REQUIRING FURTHER FILINGS Sevember 6, 2000), reversed on reconsideration as to other issues.

Feb-05-03 12:37pm From-Qwest-Omaha-1314 DOTW-7th Fir, SE PROM: 6126637950

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Table 3  EAS Rates for Polling Londone Exchange			
Service Facilities-Based Lost Access Mo EAS Rate Recovery EAS			
Residence/Business/ Payphone	\$2.182	\$22.692	\$24.874

Table 4 Citizeus MCA Exchanges EAS Rote Additives			
Service Facilities-Based Lost Access Total Mo EAS Rate Recovery EAS R			
Residence	\$0.003	50.004	\$0.009

Table S Sprint MCA Exchanges EAS Reta Additives			
Service	Facilities-Bosed EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Total Monthly EAS Rate
Residence	\$0.003	\$0.007	\$0.010
Business/Pay	\$0.006	\$0.014	\$0.020
Key/Trunk	\$0.006	\$9.017	\$0.023

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Table 6 Frontier MCA Exchanges (Apple Valley, Belle Plaine, Burnsville, Farmington, Jordan, Lukeville, Montgomery, and Rosemount) EAS Rate Additives			
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Total Monthly EAS Rate
Residence	\$0.003	\$0.039	\$0.042
Business	\$0.003	\$0,108	\$0.116
Key Trunk	\$0.008	\$0.120	50.128
PRX Trink	\$0.011	\$0.147	\$0.158
School Service One Party Key Trunk PBX Trunk	\$0.006 10.001 \$0.008	50,083 50,093 50,114	\$0.089 50.100 \$0.122
Versaline Month to Month One-Year Term Two Year Term Three-Year Term	\$0,009 10.007 \$0,006 \$0.005	\$0.118 \$0.096 \$0.085 \$0.075	\$0.127 \$0.103 \$0.091 \$0.080

Table ? Sherburne MCA Exchanges EAS Rates				
Ocrvice	Facilities-Dused EAS Rate	Lost Access/Tall Contribution Recovery	Total Monunly- EAS Rate	
Residence	\$0.000	\$0,006	\$0.006	
Business & Pay	\$0.000	\$0.011	\$0.011	

Table 8  QWEST's MCA Exchanges  EAS Rates				
Service Facilities-Based EAS Lost Access/Toll Total Rate Contribution Recovery EA				
Residence Flat	100.02	\$0.002	\$0.003	
Businecs Flat	\$0,004	\$0.004	\$6.00\$	
Business Mag	\$0.003	50.002	10.001	
Trunks	\$0.005	\$0.00a	\$0.009	
Centron/ Centrex Pub/ Semi-Pub	\$0,003	\$0.005	\$0.010	

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	Tabi Lakedate MC Montrose at EAS Rate	A Exchange Mayerly	
Service	Facilities Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Total Monthly EAS
Name Acress Line	000,02	50.002	\$0.002

Table 10 Bridgewater MCA Exchanges EAS Rate Additives			
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Total Monthly EAS
Residence	\$0,000	50.002	\$0.002
Business/ Key/ Centrex	\$0.000	\$0.003	\$0.003
PBX Trunk	\$0.000	\$0.005	50.005

	Tabl Scott- Prior La EAS Rate	Rice ke Only	
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Total Monthly EAS
Residence	\$0,014	\$0.086	20.100
Business &	\$0.032	50.202	\$0.234

Table 12 Eckles MCA Exchanges EAS Rate Additives				
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Total Monthly EAS Rate	
Residence - Town & PBX Digital	\$0.000	\$1,244	\$1.244	
Residence - Rural	\$0.000	\$1.555	\$1.555	
Business - Town, Business - Rural, Key - Town,		en 178	\$2.17\$	
Payphone PBX Analog	50.000	F 52.955	\$7.9 <del>}</del>	

# III. Lower-Cost Alternative Approved

Because EAS to the metropolitan calling area is generally more expensive than non-metropolitan EAS, companies serving petitioning exchanges in metro EAS cases must offer local measured service or another lower cost alternative to flat rate EAS. In this case the company has proposed, as an alternative to the \$24.87 EAS flat rate, a measured service EAS rate made up of a monthly charge of \$9.00 and a per-minute charge of ten cents. This reasonable alternative to flat rate EAS service will be approved.

## IV. Polling Ordered

The last step in the EAS decision-making process is to poll subscribers in the petitioning exchange to determine if the majority favors installing EAS at the rates set by the Commission. The Commission will proceed to polling. It will also direct the affected companies to provide the information and cooperation required for a fair and efficient poll.

Finally, the Commission will require that both the polling materials sent to subscribers and any tariffs ultimately filed itemize separately the portion of the EAS rate additive that recovers facilities costs and the portion that recovers lost access revenues and lost toll contribution. This information may be helpful in developing and implementing a universal service funding mechanism or in future rate re-balancing initiatives. To ease administration and prevent confusion, however, monthly bills should show only the total EAS rate.

The Commission will so order.

#### ORDER

- The final cost studies filed by the companies are hereby accepted and approved.
- 3. The EAS rates set forth above in the body of this Order are hereby approved.
- All subscribers in the Lonsdale exchange shall be polled on whether they favor installing
  the EAS route proposed at the rates approved for that exchange.

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Kelseau Powe, Jr., do hereby certify that on this 20th day of February,
2003, I have caused a copy of the foregoing PETITION OF QWEST
CORPORATION to be filed with the FCC via hardcopy, served via e-mail on the

FCC personnel listed on the attached service list and served, via United States first-

class mail on all other parties on the attached service list.

Kelseau Powe, Jr.

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Michelle Carey Federal Communications Commission Division Chief Competition Policy Division

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Bonnie Simon Lonsdale Telephone Company 126 South Main Street POB 358 Lonsdale, MN 55046 Peyton L. Wynns Federal Communications Commission Division Chief Industry Analysis and Technology Division

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